



Newsletter

Autumn Term



Welcome back Year 5!

Great to be reunited with my previous class—I'm really excited for the year ahead and for a brand new learning adventure with what I know is a great class. I thoroughly enjoyed working with the class again or transition and it is clear to see we will have another great year together—the first week has been the strongest start imaginable, with the children already calm and well-versed in their new routines. They have already shown they are keen to learn, have a positive attitude towards school and I know they all have incredible personalities that will keep us all smiling.

Already, Year 5 have shown how keen they are to get started on the lessons. They are eager to learn more and ask many inquisitive questions. They are curious learners!

The Year 5 team working with your children this year will be myself (Mr. Tilstone) and Mrs Hartshorn, our very talented Teaching Assistant. Mr Brooks will also be working with us to teach PE on a **Monday** and **Tuesday**.

We are looking forward to a busy, productive year ahead.

Our Topic: Early Civilisation

This topic will focus on the **Ancient Egyptians** and **Ancient Greeks**

We will focus our lessons around becoming **History Detectives**, **Historical Narrators**, a **Judge** (moral decisions), and a **Philosopher** (focusing on what in history was the right and wrong decisions).

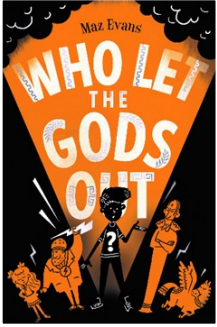
We will be become experts and research the lives of the **Greeks** and the **Egyptians** in detail and work towards answering the Big Question 'Were the Ancient Egyptian and Ancient Greek successful civilisations?'. While researching the two time periods we will look for the similarities and differences and compare their ways of living. Any research or support at home will enrich our lessons and is always encouraged.



During our Art lessons, we will researching a famous pottery designer **Lucie Rie** and **Greek pottery**. We will then make our own Greek vase out of clay and decorate in a similar style to the Ancient Greek pots.

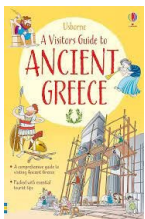


English: Writing



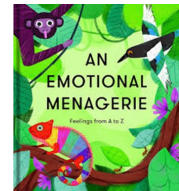
We will be beginning our term focusing on 'Who Let the Gods Out?' by Maz Evans. This book is based around the Greek Gods and a young boy called Elliot Hooper. This book uses humour to engage the reader, but also makes links to a family bereavement, illness, young carers and a child who struggles at school. These issues will be discussed at an age appropriate level and the children will be supported and be encouraged to empathise with the main character.

While reading this book, we will be working towards writing a section from the final chapter. This book is part of a series and it would be great to see children reading the other books.



In the second half term, we will focus on a non-fiction text a 'A Visitor's Guide to Ancient Greece' by Lesley Sims. We will have a focus on persuasive writing during this unit of work as the children will produce a persuasive holiday brochure.

During our poetry unit, we will be looking at a book called the 'Emotional Menagerie'. This book links heavily to PSHE and our emotions. We will write our own poem in a similar style.



WE HAVE A VERY EXCITING TERM OF BOOKS!

Novel Study

In Novel Study this term, we will be focusing on the VIPERS skills (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explaining, Retrieval and Summarising).

Our first book will link to our English unit of work with 'Who Let the Gods Out' by Maz Evans. This is so we can delve deeper into the more complex themes within the book.

In Year 5, I will be aiming to promote a love of reading with the children and I will be sharing some 'must read' books with the class. I would love if you would support this by reading at home at least 4 times a week. I would also massively recommend signing up for a library card, so that we can create a buzz around reading. If you would like any book recommendations for your child's level please come and ask me at any time!

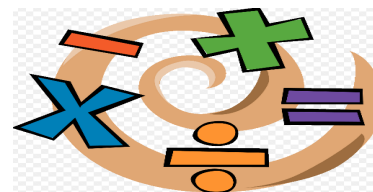
Modelling being a reader yourself as a parent is a great way to encourage your child to do likewise.

*I do believe
something magical
can happen when
you read a book.*

J.K. Rowling

Maths

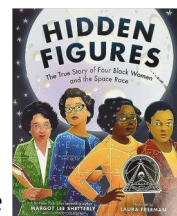
In Maths, this term, we will be starting with Place Value. Year 5 will be looking at tenths and hundredths. This will include ordering and comparing numbers; understanding the value of each digit within a number; and rounding numbers to the nearest 1 or tenth. We will then move onto calculating with decimals.



We will making links back to previous learning every lesson with our reactivation Fluency Starter. To support your child at home, please could you continue to focus on times tables as they impact on many areas of Maths. The quicker children can confidently recall their times tables, the quicker they can see the links between areas of Maths— times tables skills come up again and again and are interwoven into so many other Maths curriculum areas. You can follow along our lessons by searching 'Oak Academy Year 5 Maths'. The resources are free to download—you may remember I had the great honour and pleasure of being part of the team who created them.

Science

In Science this half term, we will be learning about **SPACE AND EARTH**. We will work scientifically to learn about the movement of the Earth and other planets; describe the moon in relation to Earth; and be able to explain day and night. We will also look at a book called '**Hidden Figures**', which is about four women and the space race. I would highly recommend reading this inspirational book at home and discussing the challenges the woman faced.



(Click the book to listen a read aloud of the book on YouTube if you do not have the book).

PSHE

In PSHE, we will be focusing on our 'Talking Points', which are short stories that have a theme or moral to discuss at an age appropriate level. We will read a range of books.



We will also have a huge focus on our Wynndale Value — Kindness.

PE

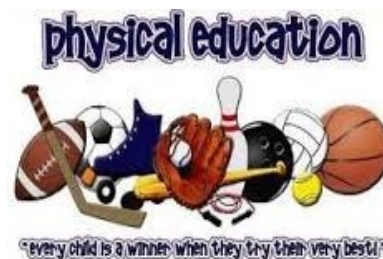
Year 5 PE is on a **Monday** and **Tuesday**

Please remember the PE Kit is a white T shirt & black shorts for indoor PE,

Trainers for outdoor PE.

Additional tops/joggers will be needed in cold weather - these should be plain and school/dark coloured.

Jewellery should not be worn for PE and hair should be tied up where possible.



Dates For Your Diary

PE:

Every **Monday** and **Tuesday**

Break up for Half Term:

Thursday 15th October 2026 (Friday is an INSET Day)

Back to school after Half Term:

Monday 2nd November 2026

Ancient Egypt Day (in school):

Tuesday, 15th September 2026



Homework

Times tables: Please keep learning and recapping times tables at home. We are aiming for fast recall of times tables in Year 5, including divisions. TT Rockstars is great for this. If you need the password sending home again, please ask.

Spellings: Your child will have spellings each week based around a spelling rule. These have been sent out on ClassDojo as well as a paper copy, but we always have plenty of spares in class for your child to grab. We will have a spelling test on a Monday, with the new rule introduced on Tuesdays.

Reading: Your child will bring home their reading book and diary each day. Please listen to them read a minimum of four times a week. Please ask questions about the book, characters and refer to new vocabulary. Any recommendations about books or reading please ask as reading is huge focus within the classroom. The reading diaries can be filled in by the child with a short summary about what they have read, or you can continue to write in if you prefer. Please sign their summary as it is helpful for us when checking.

Year 5 Teaching Team

Mr Tilstone - Teacher

Mrs Hartshorn—Teaching Assistant

“

YOU HAVE BRAINS IN YOUR HEAD.
YOU HAVE FEET IN YOUR SHOES.
YOU CAN STEER YOURSELF ANY
DIRECTION YOU CHOOSE.

Dr. Seuss